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REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Applicants' invention is generally directed toward a method of coating a substrate with a material by providing a substrate, an applicator having an A-side intake, an A-side outlet, a B-side intake, a B-side outlet, and a nozzle head, as well as an A-side reactant that includes at least one isocyanate, and a B-side reactant that includes a blown vegetable oil, a cross-linking agent, and a catalyst and passing the A-side reactant through the A-side intake of the applicator and the B-side reactant through the B-side intake of the applicator such that the A-side and B-side reactants pass through the A-side and B-side outlets in contact with the substrate.

The Examiner has rejected claims 38-39, 42, 44-51, and 83-85 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b), as being anticipated by WO 99/12987. Applicants respectfully submit that the amended claims are not anticipated by this reference or its related U.S. case, U.S. Patent No. 6,288,133, because no mention is made of utilizing a blown vegetable/oxidized vegetable oil. This fact was acknowledged by the Examiner in view of the fact that claim 41, originally presented as limiting the vegetable oil to a blown soy oil, was rejected as obvious in view of the Hagquist references.

The Examiner has also rejected the remaining claims as obvious in view of the Hagquist references. According to the Examiner, while Hagquist fails to teach soy, rape, cotton, or palm oil, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have substituted one of these oils for the castor oil of the reference with the expectation of similar results. Applicants respectfully disagree. Applicants have amended their independent claims to require a blown, *i.e.* oxidized, vegetable oil, as a component in the B-side.

Applicants blow and thereby oxidize the vegetable oil of the present invention to increase the number of functional hydroxyl groups. Applicants have enclosed a Castor Oil Specifications page from a castor oil supplier, which shows that, for castor oil, blowing castor oil actually decreases the functionality of the oil, a fact that teaches away from the presently claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit there is no suggestion that one of ordinary skill in the art would have substituted the castor oil of the Hagquist references with the

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blown/oxidized vegetable oils of the present invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the amended pending claims are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner has also rejected claims 40, 44, 47-49, 62, 82, and 84 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants have amended these claims to address the Examiner's concerns. The Examiner also objected to claim 48 due to spelling errors. Applicants respectfully request the spelling errors be clarified.

Applicants have also amended the specification to clarify the relationship between the present case and the related cases to which this case claims priority. Finally, Applicants have submitted herewith a Second Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, as well as a three month extension of time in which to respond to this Office Action.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes that there are any additional informalities, the courtesy of a telephone call to Applicants' attorneys, Todd A. Van Thomme or Steven L. Underwood, would be sincerely appreciated. If the Examiner feels a telephone interview would be helpful, Applicants' attorneys are more than happy to schedule one at the Examiner's convenience. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

THOMAS M. KURTH ET AL.

By: PRICE, HENEVELD, COOPER,
DEWITT & LITTON, LLP

1/30/2004
Date

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Castor Oil Specifications

	Color Gardner	Acid Number	% Moisture & Volatile	Appearance at 25° C	Hydroxyl Value	Iodine Value	Sap. Value
Industrial Castor Oil	3 Max	2 Max	0.25 Max	CLEAR	160-168	83-88	175-185

Pale Pressed Castor Oil	2 Max	1.50 Max	0.25 Max	CLEAR	160-168	83-88	175-185
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	Color Gardner	Acid Number	Hydroxyl Value	Iodine Value	Sap. Value	Melt Point °C
Hydrogenated Castor	3 Max	3 Max	155 Min	3 Max	174-186	84-89

12 Hydroxystearic Acid	8 Max *	175 Min	150 Min	6 Max	180 Min	72 Min
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	Color Gardner	Acid Number	Hydroxyl Value	Iodine Value	Sap. Value
Ricinoleic Acid	11 Max *	175 Min	150 Min	80-91	180 Min

	Color Gardner	Acid Number	Hydroxyl Value	Iodine Value	Sap. Value	Viscosity Gardner- Holt/Stokes
Blown Castor Oil-Z-1	6 Max	12-16	151-158	69-73	200-220	Z-1 /25-35
Blown Castor Oil-Z-6	9 Max	10-14	130-140	56-65	210-230	Z-5-6 /100-150
Blown Castor Oil-Z-8	16 Max	11-16	125-135	58-66	220-245	Z-8 /450-600

* Lighter color grades available